

Suicide in Oklahoma, 2017

- In 2017, there were 739 suicides by Oklahoma residents, 561 males and 178 females. Suicides comprised 66% of all violent deaths.
- The mean age of victims was 44 years; victims ranged in age from 12 to 97.
- Males had a higher suicide rate than females, regardless of age group. The suicide rate peaked for males 85 years and older at 58.0 per 100,000 (Figure 1).
- For females, the suicide rate peaked in the 45 to 54 age group with a rate of 18.3 per 100,000 (Figure 1).
- The suicide rate among American Indian, non-Hispanics was slightly higher than White, non-Hispanics and almost 2.5 times higher than Black, non-Hispanics (Figure 2).
- 35% of suicide victims had a positive blood alcohol content (BAC) at the time of death; 27% of all BACs were $\geq 0.08\%$.

Figure 1: Suicide Rates by Age Group and Gender, Oklahoma, 2017

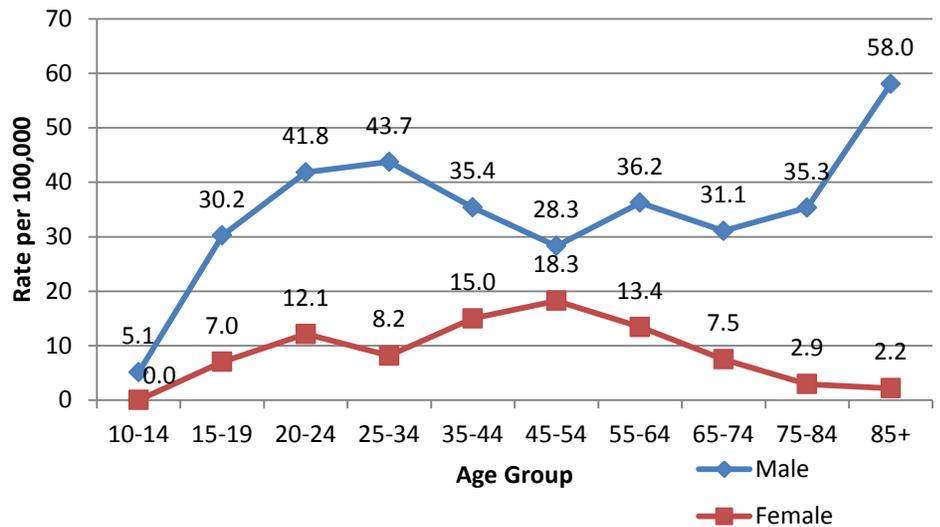
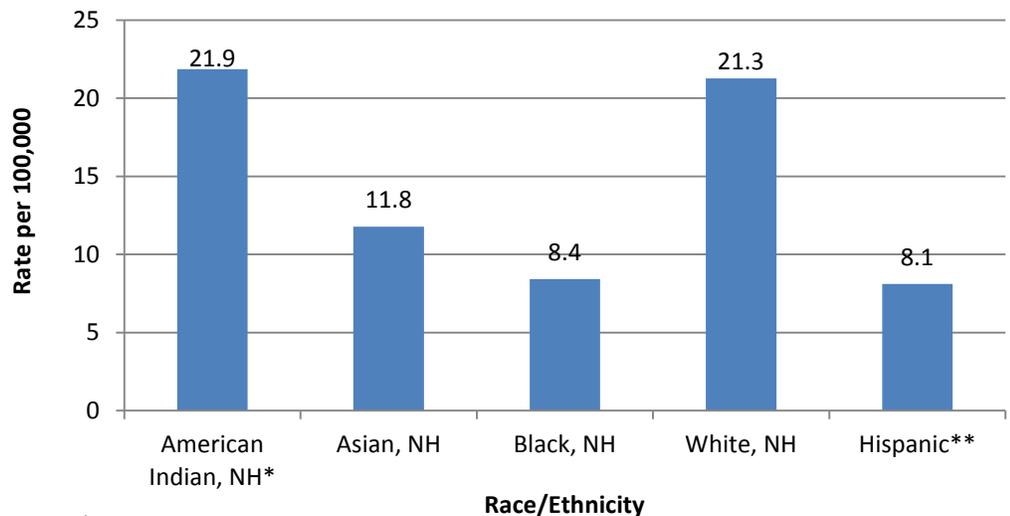


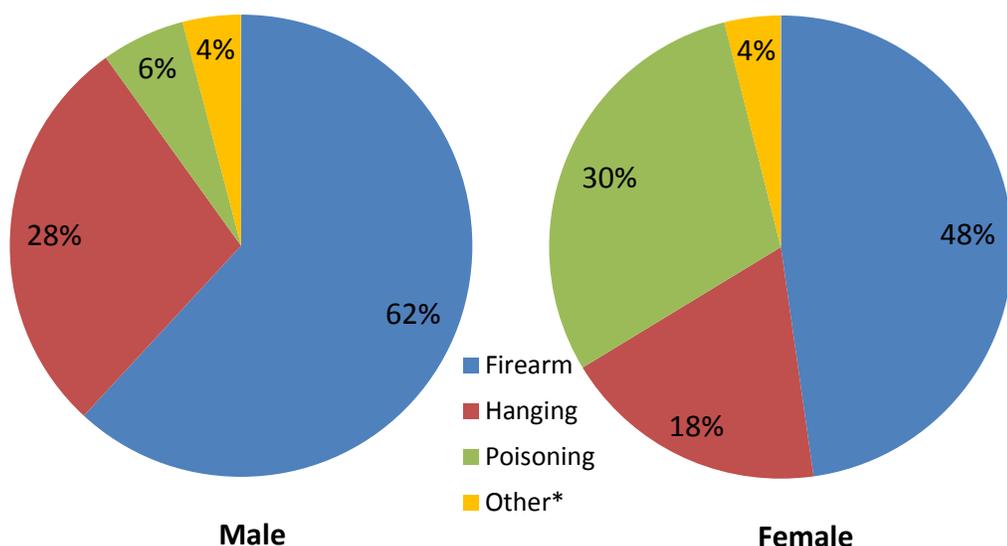
Figure 2: Suicide Rates by Race/Ethnicity, Oklahoma, 2017



*NH = Not Hispanic

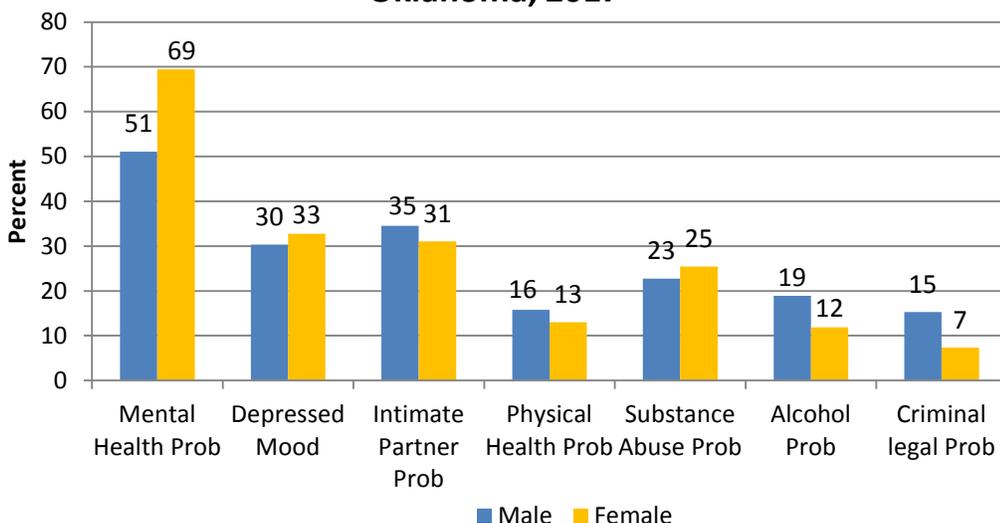
**Hispanic ethnicity is not a racial category.

Figure 3. Method of Suicide by Gender, Oklahoma, 2017



*Other methods include sharp/blunt instruments, fall, fire, other transportation

Figure 4. Suicide Circumstances* by Gender, Oklahoma, 2017



*More than one circumstance may have been associated with a suicide.

- Among males and females, firearms were the leading method of suicide; males had a higher percentage than females, 62% and 48%, respectively (Figure 3).
- Females had a higher percentage of poisoning as a method of suicide as compared to males, 30% and 6%, respectively (Figure 3).
- Among males, the leading circumstances of suicide were mental health problems (51%), intimate partner problems (35%), and depressed mood (30%) (Figure 4).
- Among females, the leading circumstances of suicide were mental health problems (69%) and depressed mood (33%) (Figure 4).
- Females more often had a history of suicide attempt than males, 26% and 14% respectively.
- A suicide note was left by 48% of females and 30% of males.

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The Oklahoma Violent Death Reporting System (OKVDRS) is a statewide surveillance system for suicides, homicides, undetermined manner deaths, unintentional firearm injury deaths and legal intervention deaths. Data are collected from medical examiner reports, death certificates, and law enforcement reports. The data are included in the National Violent Death Reporting System and can be accessed at <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/>.

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